

WI-578
The Oaks
Salisbury (Site)
Private

1883-84, 1905

The last decades of the nineteenth century were particularly prosperous ones for the citizens of Salisbury, who had built up over the course of twenty years the largest commercial, industrial, and trading center on the peninsula south of Wilmington, Delaware. The most ambitious domestic construction project during the early 1880s was the design and assemblage of the sprawling Shingle-style mansion for Elihu Emory Jackson and Nellie Rider Jackson on a large parcel of land bordering North Division and West Isabella streets. A short item in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, printed on July 13, 1883, stated, "*Carpenters and builders are very busy in town. E. E. Jackson's new residence will soon be begun.*"

Conceived in the nationally popular Shingle-style, the sprawling frame mansion was distinguished by multiple gables, towers and decorative wood surfaces common to the eclectic architectural style. The house included over twenty rooms. Facing West Isabella Street on the highest crest of the site, the mansion was set in a mature grove of oaks from which the property took its name. The land on which the mansion was sited was formally purchased several years after the house was built; conveyed from the estate of General Humphrey Humphreys. The tract had been previously used as a community park and was well known for its mature stand of trees.

"The Oaks," was one of the most elaborate dwellings in Salisbury, and its prominence was furthered by E. E. Jackson's role as the Governor of Maryland between 1888 and 1892. In fact, his nomination for the governor's seat was accepted on the

dwelling's east porch. The event was described by a reporter for the *Salisbury Advertiser* on August 6, 1887. The paper stated,

The citizens of Salisbury and this county turned out last Monday night in a spontaneous outburst of good feeling, to honor Senator Jackson, and to show appreciation of the honor conferred upon the county by the democratic party of the State. The overflow was spontaneous and impromptu.

The citizens assembled at the courthouse at 8 o'clock p.m. and marched to Mr. Jackson's residence about five hundred strong, headed by the Delmar Cornet band. In the procession were the business men of the town; men of that class to which Mr. Jackson himself belongs, who rebuild cities that have been destroyed by fire, in one year. When the procession assembled in the park about the residence of Mr. Jackson, there were also found in the audience many ladies and citizens of other political creeds.

From the eastern veranda, E. Stanley Toadvine delivered a short speech honoring E. E. Jackson, the first gubernatorial candidate from the relatively new Wicomico County. Following E. Stanley Toadvine, Senator Jackson gave a short acceptance, which was followed by several deliveries by other local businessmen and officials including Thomas Humphreys, J. E. Ellegood, and Thomas F. J. Rider. During his term as governor E. E. Jackson and his family resided in Annapolis and Salisbury as well as in Baltimore.

E. E. Jackson and his wife Nellie financed substantial improvements to the mansion in 1905, which was mentioned in a short article printed in *The Wicomico News*:

The Oaks, the beautiful home of ex-Governor E. E. Jackson, has been very much improved. The house has been enlarged, a new conservatory added, electric lights installed, several new baths put in. The verandas have been extended around the entire house. The interior has been retouched, hard-wood floors laid and other improvements added. A new heating plant has been installed and a power house built to furnish power for a private water supply. A handsome new brick stables (sic) is being erected. The sons of ex-Governor and Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. Hugh and Everett Jackson, with their families, will occupy the house this summer, while their parents are travelling in Europe.

In the same period, E. E. Jackson and his wife were large donors in the construction of the Romanesque Revival Trinity church. Trinity is embellished with Tiffany windows and mosaics,

several of which are memorials to the Jacksons. Ex-Governor E. E. Jackson did not live much longer to enjoy the enlarged and more convenient mansion or the new Trinity church. He died while in Baltimore on December 27, 1907. Nannie Rider Jackson continued to own "The Oaks" until the mid 1920s when it was sold with the prospect of a new development. The Shingle-style mansion, brick stable, and other support buildings were demolished. In their place a subdivision of Colonial Revival, neo-Federal, and English vernacular revival inspired dwellings were built along a winding drive among the old oaks. The neighborhood retained the name of the Jackson estate. The only vestige of the Jackson estate improvements is a section of brick wall that lines West Isabella Street.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-578

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| historic | The Oaks |
| other | Governor E. E. Jackson House |

2. Location

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| street and number | West Isabella and North Divison Streets | — not for publication |
| city, town | Salisbury | vicinity |
| county | Wicomico | |

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------|--|-----------------|--|--|--|
| name | | | | Multiple Owners | | | |
| street and number | | | | telephone | | | |
| city, town | | state | | zip code | | | |

4. Location of Legal Description

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. | Wicomico County Clerk of Court | liber | folio |
| city, town | Salisbury | tax map | tax parcel |
| | | | tax ID number |

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Current Function | | Resource Count | |
|--|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> defense | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> sites |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> social | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> structures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> objects |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Total |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> health care | <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> other: | | |
| | | | | Number of Contributing Resource: previously listed in the Inventory | |

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-578

Condition

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property historically known as "The Oaks" was located on a large parcel of land which bordered North Division and West Isabella streets in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The large two-and-a-half story Shingle style frame dwelling stood on a crest of land in the center of the lot with the principal façade oriented to face south. Reported to have encompassed over forty rooms on three floors, the sprawling frame structure was joined on the lot by a brick stable and carriage house situated on the western edge of the lot. During the 1920s the house and stable were demolished in a plan to subdivide and develop the acreage into a neighborhood also known as "The Oaks."

Built in 1883-84, the Shingle-style mansion followed an asymmetrical plan with projecting gables and towers which extended from an asymmetrical shaped main block. The exterior was largely clad with wood shingles, and the roof was covered in slate.

The east (main) elevation of the Shingle-style house was a asymmetrical façade marked by projecting gable roofed pavilions and a three-story tower that extended from the northeast corner. The first floor was sheltered on three sides by a turned post, wraparound porch. Extending forward from the south façade was a single-story porte cochere. An adjacent bay to the west was defined by a rounded bay pierced by four sash windows. Above the rounded bay the pavilion had square edges, and above it was a projecting gable roof distinguished by shingled surfaces and decorative work within the gable. West of the rounded bay was a single-story shed roofed addition that housed a fully enclosed glass conservatory. Fixed above the conservatory was a round arched opening in the second floor wall that provided for a second floor porch. A decorated brick stack pierced the roofline of the mansion.

The only extant vestige of the mansion is a section of brick wall that borders West Isabella Street.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-578

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1883-84, 1905

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The last decades of the nineteenth century were particularly prosperous ones for the citizens of Salisbury, who had built up over the course of twenty years the largest commercial, industrial and trading center on the peninsula south of Wilmington, Delaware. The most ambitious domestic construction project during the early 1880s was the design and assemblage of the sprawling Shingle-style mansion for Elihu Emory Jackson and Nellie Rider Jackson on a large parcel of land bordering North Division and West Isabella streets. A short item in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, printed on July 14, 1883, stated, "Carpenters and builders are very busy in town. E. E. Jackson's new residence will soon be begun."¹

Conceived in the popular Shingle-style the sprawling frame mansion was distinguished by multiple gables, towers and decorative wood surfaces common to the eclectic architectural style. Facing West Isabella Street on the highest crest of the site, the mansion was set in a mature grove of oaks from which the property took its name. The land on which the mansion was sited was formally purchased several years after the house was built; conveyed from the estate of Humphrey Humphreys.² The lot had been previously used as a community park and was well known for its mature stand of trees.³

"The Oaks," was one of the most elaborate dwellings in Salisbury, and its prominence was furthered by E. E. Jackson's role as the Governor of Maryland between 1888 and 1892. In fact, his nomination for the governor's seat was accepted on the east porch. The event was described by a reporter for the *Salisbury Advertiser* on August 6, 1887. The paper stated,

The citizens of Salisbury and this county turned out last Monday night in a spontaneous outburst of good feeling, to honor Senator Jackson, and to show their appreciation of the honor conferred upon the county by the democratic party of the State. The overflow was spontaneous and impromptu.

The citizens assembled at the courthouse at 8 o'clock p.m. and marched to Mr. Jackson's residence about five hundred strong, headed by the Delmar Cornet band. In the procession were the business men of the town; men of that class to which Mr. Jackson himself belongs, who rebuilt cities that have been

¹ *Salisbury Advertiser*, July 14, 1883.

² Wicomico County Land Records, FMS 4/70, 29 October 1888 and FMS 4/71, 29 October 1888.

³ John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Salisbury: Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name The Oaks
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

*destroyed by fire, in one year. When the procession assembled in the park about the residence of Mr. Jackson, there were also found in the audience many ladies and citizens of other political creeds.*⁴

From the eastern veranda, E. Stanley Toadvine delivered a short speech honoring E. E. Jackson, the first man to run for governor of Maryland from the relatively new Wicomico County. Following E. Stanley Toadvine, Senator Jackson gave a short acceptance, which was followed by several other local businessmen and officials, including Thomas Humphreys, J. E. Ellegood, and Thomas F. J. Rider.

After his election as governor of Maryland, the Jacksons resided in Annapolis and Salisbury as well as in Baltimore. In 1905, E. E. Jackson and his wife Nellie Rider financed substantial improvements for their Salisbury residence, an event that was covered in a short article printed in *The Wicomico News*:

*The Oaks, the beautiful home of ex-Governor E. E. Jackson, has been very much improved. The house has been enlarged, a new conservatory added, electric lights installed, several new baths put in. The verandas have been extended around the entire house. The interior has been retouched, hard-wood floors laid and other improvements added. A new heating plant has been installed and a power house built to furnish power for a private water supply. A handsome new brick stables is being erected. The sons of ex-Governor and Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. Hugh and Everett Jackson, with their families, will occupy this summer, while their parents are travelling in Europe.*⁵

In the same period, E. E. Jackson and his wife were large donors in the construction of the Romanesque Revival Trinity church, which is embellished with Tiffany windows and mosaics, many of which are memorials to the Jackson family. Ex-Governor E. E. Jackson did not live much longer to enjoy the enlarged and more convenient house or the new Trinity church. He died while in Baltimore on December 27, 1907.⁶ Nannie Rider Jackson continued to occupy "The Oaks" until the mid 1920s when it was sold with the prospect of a new development. The Shingle-style mansion, brick stable and other support buildings were demolished. In their place a subdivision of Colonial Revival, neoclassical, and English vernacular inspired dwellings were built along a winding drive set among the old trees. The remaining vestige of the Jackson improvements is a portion of a brick wall that lines West Isabella Street.

⁴ *Salisbury Advertiser*, August 6, 1887.

⁵ *The Wicomico News*, 11 May 1905.

⁶ Heinrich Ewald Buchholtz, *Governors of Maryland: From the Revolution to the Year 1908*. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1908, pp. 242-247.

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Continuation Sheet

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FMS 4/70

Eugene W. Humphreys, trustee

to

10/29/1888

Elihu E. Jackson

Decree of Circuit Court, July 21, 1887, in the case of E. W. Humphreys vs. Eugene F. Humphreys, No. 625, in Chancery, fronting 56 feet on Division Street, and running back 171'8" to the lot of ground of Mrs. Rider

FMS 4/71

Eugene W. Humphreys, trustee

to

10/29/1888

E. E. Jackson

TF, Jr. 1/50

J. M. Shockley

to

1/4/1868

Humphrey Humphreys

\$1500 on the west side of the road leading from Salisbury to Laurel, Delaware, and in the corner formerly said road leading to Laurel and the road running from the Laurel road to Bailey's or Humphrey's Mills....being the same property which said James M. Shockley obtained by deed of a majority of the Commissioners appointed by the circuit court of Worcester (sic) Somerset ? county to value and divide the estate of Major Phillips late of Worcester County (sic) LW 7/596

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Name The Oaks
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

Salisbury Advertiser, August 6, 1887

Senator Jackson's Reception

A Rousing Reception Tendered Him Monday Night—Speeches and Music

The citizens of Salisbury and the county turned out last Monday night in a spontaneous outburst of good feeling, to honor Senator Jackson, and to show their appreciation of the honor conferred upon the county by the democratic party of the State. The overflow was spontaneous and impromptu.

The citizens assembled at the courthouse at 8 o'clock p.m. and marched to Mr. Jackson's residence about five hundred strong, headed by the Delmar Cornet band. In the procession were the business men of the town; men of that class to which Mr. Jackson himself belongs, who rebuild cities that have been destroyed by fire, in one year. When the procession assembled in the park about the residence of Mr. Jackson, there were also found in the audience many ladies and citizens of other political creeds.

At half past eight E. Stanley Toadvin Esq., appeared on the Eastern veranda and said:

"On the 14th day of this month twenty years will have elapsed since the resolution passed the constitutional convention of 1867 constituting and organizing Wicomico county. During these years the county never swerved from allegiance to the democratic party, and year by year has rolled up her immense majorities for that party, and on several occasions has saved the democratic congressional nominee in the first district from route and overthrow. As a reward for her faithful service, and in honor of the man, one of the most intelligent, liberal and patriotic conventions ever assembled in Maryland has nominated Hon. Elihu E. Jackson for Governor, a man of the people....

The Wicomico News, May 11, 1905

The Oaks, the beautiful home of ex-Governor E. E. Jackson, has been very much improved. The house has been enlarged, a new conservatory added, electric lights installed, several new baths put in. The verandas have been extended around the entire house. The interior has been retouched, hard-wood floors laid and other improvements added. A new heating plant has been installed and a power house built to furnish power for a private water supply. A handsome new brick stables (sic) is being erected. The sons of ex-Governor and Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. Hugh and Everett Jackson, with their families, will occupy the house this summer, while their parents are traveling in Europe.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-578

Buchholtz, Heinrich Ewald. *Governors of Maryland from the Revolution to the Year 1908*. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins, 1908.
Sanborn Insurance maps, various issues, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.
Salisbury Advertiser, various issues, Wicomico County Free Library.
The Wicomico News, various issues, Wicomico County Free Library.
Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Acreage of surveyed property | <u>1/2 acre</u> | |
| Acreage of historical setting | <u>5 acres</u> | |
| Quadrangle name | <u>Salisbury, Maryland</u> | Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u> |

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property were altered when the house was demolished and the property divided into building lots.

11. Form Prepared by

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|----------------|
| name/title | Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian | | |
| organization | Private Consultant | date | 7/1/2001 |
| street & number | P. O. Box 5 | telephone | 410-651-1094 |
| city or town | Westover | state | Maryland 21871 |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Governors of Maryland
from the Revolution
to the year 1908

XLI

ELIHU EMORY JACKSON

Shortly after the close of the Civil War, the democratic party of Maryland was returned to power by the same movement practically which resulted in the constitution of 1867. The party's formidable strength from then on seemed to stamp out even as a remote possibility the hope of the republicans winning back the state machinery. This prompted the democratic leaders now and then to indulge in plays that were more profitable than virtuous, and so in due course the party fell into ill-favor, not only with its political opponents, but with the more righteous members of its own belief. Both the party leaders of the better sort and the party press became active toward the approach of the state convention of 1887 in a campaign to free the controlling organization in Maryland from the features which had not unjustly called forth condemnation. And in the convention of that year there is seen the beginning of an era when the individual candidate, if he carried with him enough popular favor, could demand from the organization a certain amount of recognition. Although in the early part of the convention which was to name the state ticket, each section presented its particular candidate, the convention ended with all party members in perfect harmony, and the people of Maryland were permitted to view a political meeting in which neither scheming nor trickery was the order of the day, but a sane consideration of the good of the party. The gubernatorial candidate chosen was one whose primary claim to the confidence of the people was his commercial success and his business reputation.

Governor 1888-1892

WI-578

HEINRICH EDWARD BUCHHOLZ
BIRT. WILLIAM P. WILKINS
CV 1908 pp. 242-247



COPYRIGHT, 1908, BY H. E. BUCHHOLZ.

When Mr. Jackson was named for governor the greatest appeal that could be made in his behalf was his business ability. When he was elected to the office of state executive it is probable that his business ability was still accepted by the voters as his chief recommendation. And in reviewing the administration of the Eastern Shoreman—indeed, in a review of his entire life—the one dominant note must be “business.”

Elihu Emory Jackson was born near Salisbury on November 3, 1837. His father, Hugh Jackson, was a hard-working man, but his home was not, perhaps, as humble as some stump speakers of the later eighties painted it. Elihu Emory Jackson, who was the eldest of seven children, received as good an education as the country school of his neighborhood afforded. For some time after closing his school career, he aided his father in the management and cultivation of the farm, but there was ever present with him the desire to cut free from the home ties—not because of their restraint, but because they meant limitation of commercial possibilities—and to make a shift in the great big world for himself. During the period of preparation he hoarded up as much money as he could earn, and finally, with sufficient capital to warrant a venture on his own account, he left for Delmar where he engaged in business. This was in 1859, shortly after Mr. Jackson had attained his majority, and he chose the town of Delmar as the scene of his venture because it was then the terminus of the Delaware railroad. For four years he continued at Delmar building up for himself a reputation, increasing his capital and adding rapidly to his business experience. In 1863, after the railroad had been extended to Salisbury, he moved his business there. He opened a general merchandise and dry goods establishment, and also handled both lumber and grain. His father and his eldest brother were admitted into

the partnership with him at the time of his removal to Salisbury, and as his other brothers reached manhood they also were taken into the business, which was conducted under the firm name of E. E. Jackson & Co. A history of this firm is the story of Governor Jackson's advance from the position of a very modest merchant to that of one of the largest lumber dealers in the country.

The officeholding period of Mr. Jackson's career covered a comparatively small part of his whole life, although immediately upon becoming a voter he manifested much interest in political affairs. His excursion into the doubtful field of candidacy for office, however, was to all appearances but a brief interruption to a life which had been devoted primarily to great lumber interests; while his concern in state political affairs found a close second to his interest in the municipal affairs of his home town, Salisbury. It was in 1882, when Mr. Jackson was a man of forty-five, that he first received at the hands of the people among whom he had so long been prominent in the world of business the nomination for an elective office. In that year he was elected to the house of delegates; and two years later, at the next legislative election, he was returned to the legislature, though this time he was sent to the upper branch of the general assembly. At the close of the session of 1886, when Edwin Warfield resigned as president of the senate in order to accept the post of surveyor of the port of Baltimore, Mr. Jackson elected his successor.

The rise of Mr. Jackson as a political factor from the time of his first election to the legislature, in 1882, to the time set for the state convention of 1887 was remarkable. From a great and influential business man who manifested some interest in political affairs he grew to be the strongest candidate whom the Eastern Shoremen could offer the convention as their choice for the gubernatorial nomination.

The delegates from Western Maryland were in favor of Mr. L. Victor Baughman, while the section in between—which comprised Baltimore city and the surrounding counties—was for Mayor Hodges of Baltimore, who was, however, a bone of contention in a measure even among the people of his own section. For some time a deadlock seemed threatened, but on the sixth ballot the Baltimore county delegation threw its support to Mr. Jackson, and its lead was promptly followed by all the Hodges' supporters, giving Mr. Jackson the nomination before the spectators could fully realize the drift in his direction. Harmony was the cry of the leaders among the delegates, and General Baughman himself moved to make Mr. Jackson's choice unanimous. At the election, on November 8, 1887, Elihu E. Jackson defeated Walter B. Brooks, the republican candidate for governor.

Governor Jackson, during the four years that he directed state affairs, made a good record for efficient and business-like administration. First of all, there was his constant solicitude for the rights of the people in their dealings through the state government with corporations. With remarkable business foresight, he directed the attention of the legislature to the need of prohibiting any railroad company from consolidating with another railway company, and also of forbidding the assignment of a railroad's charter to another company without specified permission in each instance from the legislature. In other words, he sought in that day to put up a barrier which should prevent widespread consolidation of railroad interests, because of the twofold danger of them becoming too formidable factors in state affairs and of stifling competition. Governor Jackson endeavored to have the railroad companies and other large corporations bear a more equitable share of the burden of taxes, and he favored taxing foreign corporations doing business in the

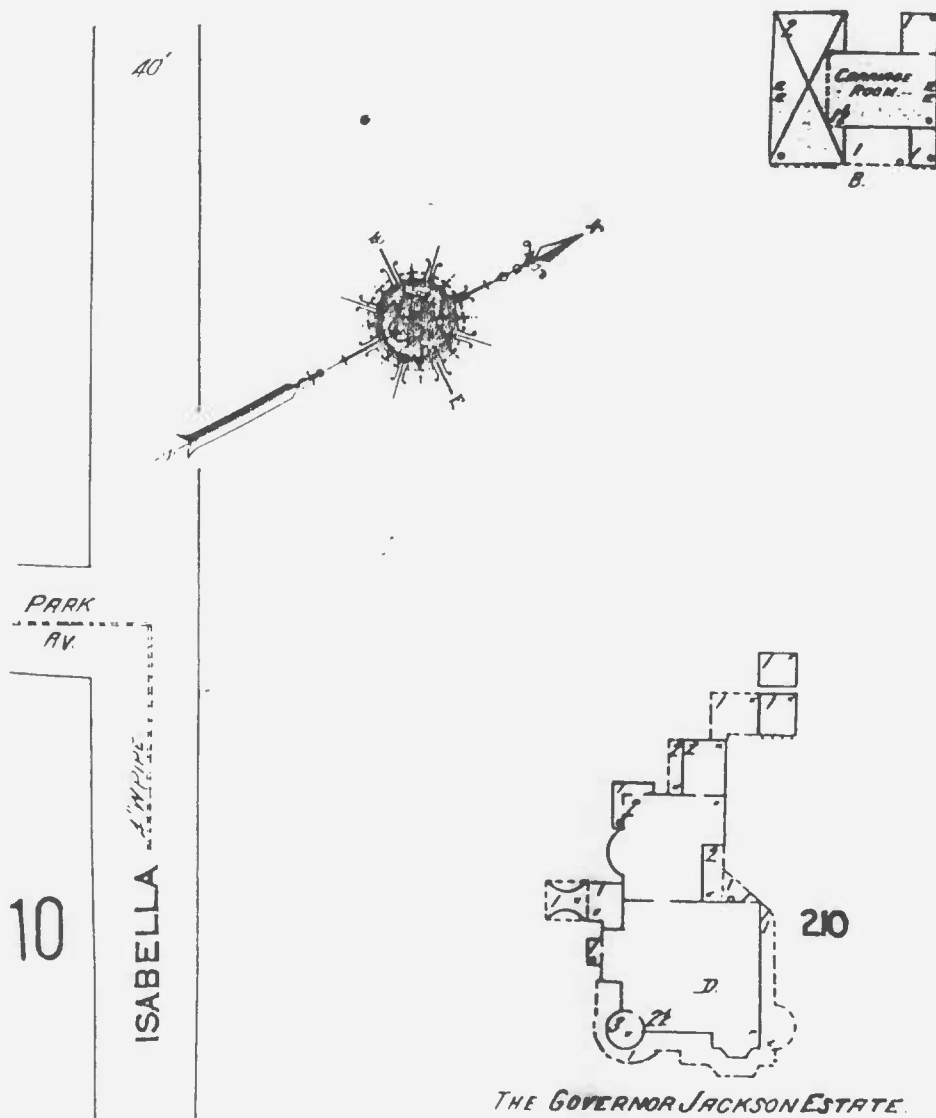
state in proportion to the amount of business they transacted in the commonwealth. Side by side with this constant endeavor to have the big corporations do their share in supporting the state government was an unceasing campaign for decreasing the taxes of the common citizen.

Mr. Jackson made no secret of his wish to be sent to the United States senate, and during his administration he labored industriously to make possible a realization of this ambition. He first appeared as a formidable candidate in 1890, but in the heat of the contest disclosures were made concerning the defalcations of State Treasurer Stevenson Archer; and this unfortunate affair, for which Governor Jackson was in no wise to blame, put an end for a time to his candidacy. Two years later he again appeared as an aspirant for senatorial honors, but Senator Gorman and the democratic leader of Baltimore worked against him and he was defeated.

After the close of his administration, Governor Jackson resumed the position in the business world from which public office had called him, and thereafter he gave chief thought to his commercial affairs. His enormous lumber interests and his connection with the Salisbury National Bank and the Sussex National Bank—the latter at Seaford, Delaware—took much of his time. He bore an active part in the state campaign of 1895, when many of the old democratic leaders met with defeat. At that time he was a candidate for the state senate and was one of the few successful democrats. At the session of 1896 Mr. Jackson served as chairman of the finance committee, accomplishing several meritorious reforms; and in the session of 1898 he was also a useful member. His democratic friends sought to have him become a congressional candidate in 1900 against his brother, William H. Jackson, who had gone over to the republican party when the demo-

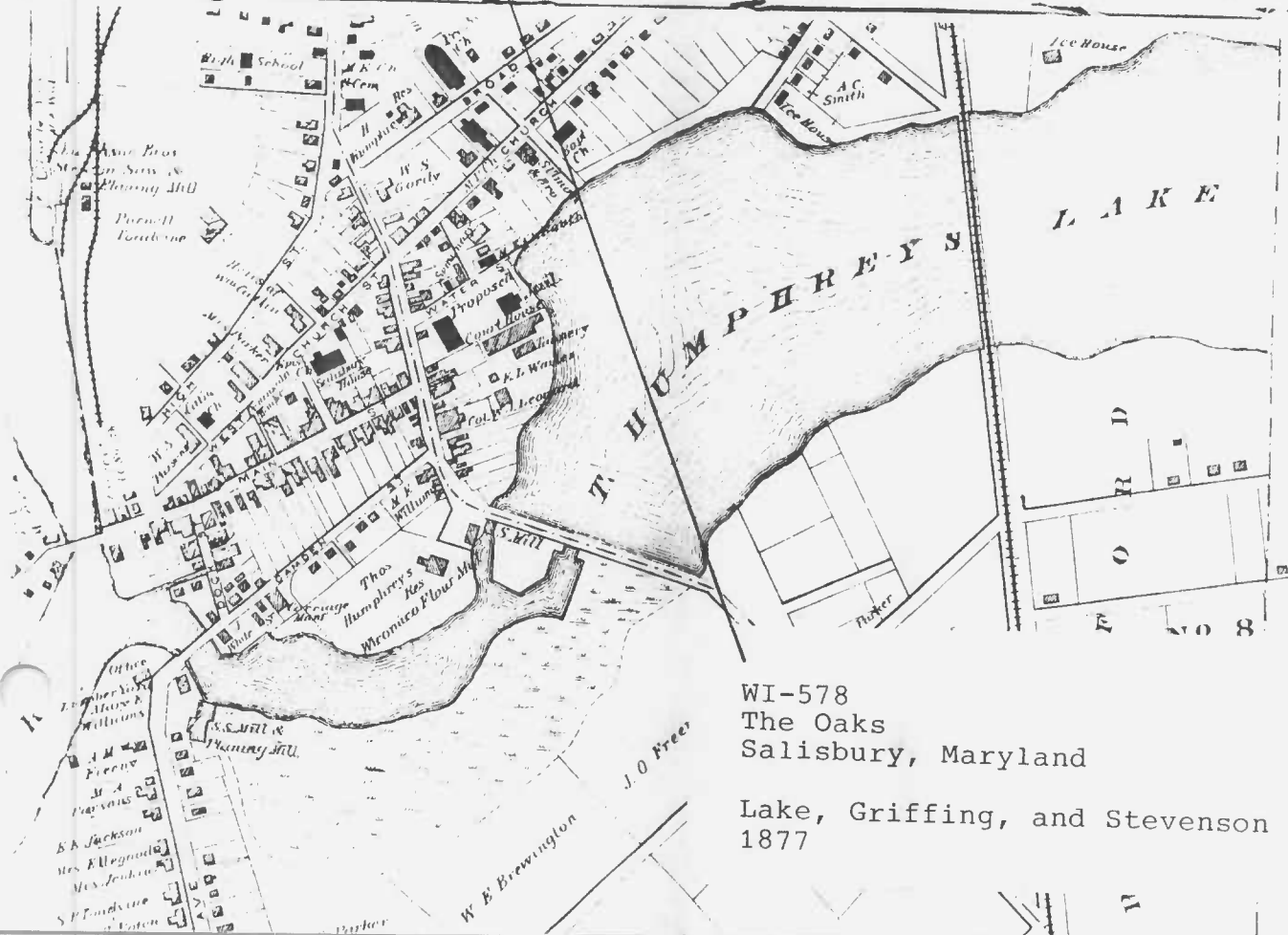
crats first advocated "free silver;" but Governor Jackson could not be persuaded to enter the contest. In 1902 and in 1904 he was again spoken of for congress; and in the latter year the convention even went so far as to nominate him without his consent, but he declined the honor. Finally in 1907, Mr. Jackson played an important part in the convention which named Austin L. Crothers for governor, and he was largely responsible for the movement which gave the deciding votes to Mr. Crothers instead of to Henry Williams.

In the days when Governor Jackson was fighting hardest for success in the business world he put into practice the theory that two heads are better than one, and married. Mrs. Jackson, who was Miss Nannie Rider, daughter of Dr. William H. Rider, of Salisbury, was the close companion of the governor in all his affairs from the time of their marriage, in 1869. They made their home in the beautiful mansion which Mr. Jackson erected in Salisbury in 1885, and their greatest interests were centered in the Eastern Shore town. When Salisbury was visited by a disastrous fire in 1885, Governor Jackson contributed generously of his means to the rebuilding of the place. He was, of course, a mighty force in the commercial affairs of his home town, where his own business constituted so large a source of activity. He was also active in the church and social circles of the county seat of Wicomico. He died in Baltimore, on December 27, 1907.



WI-578
The Oaks
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

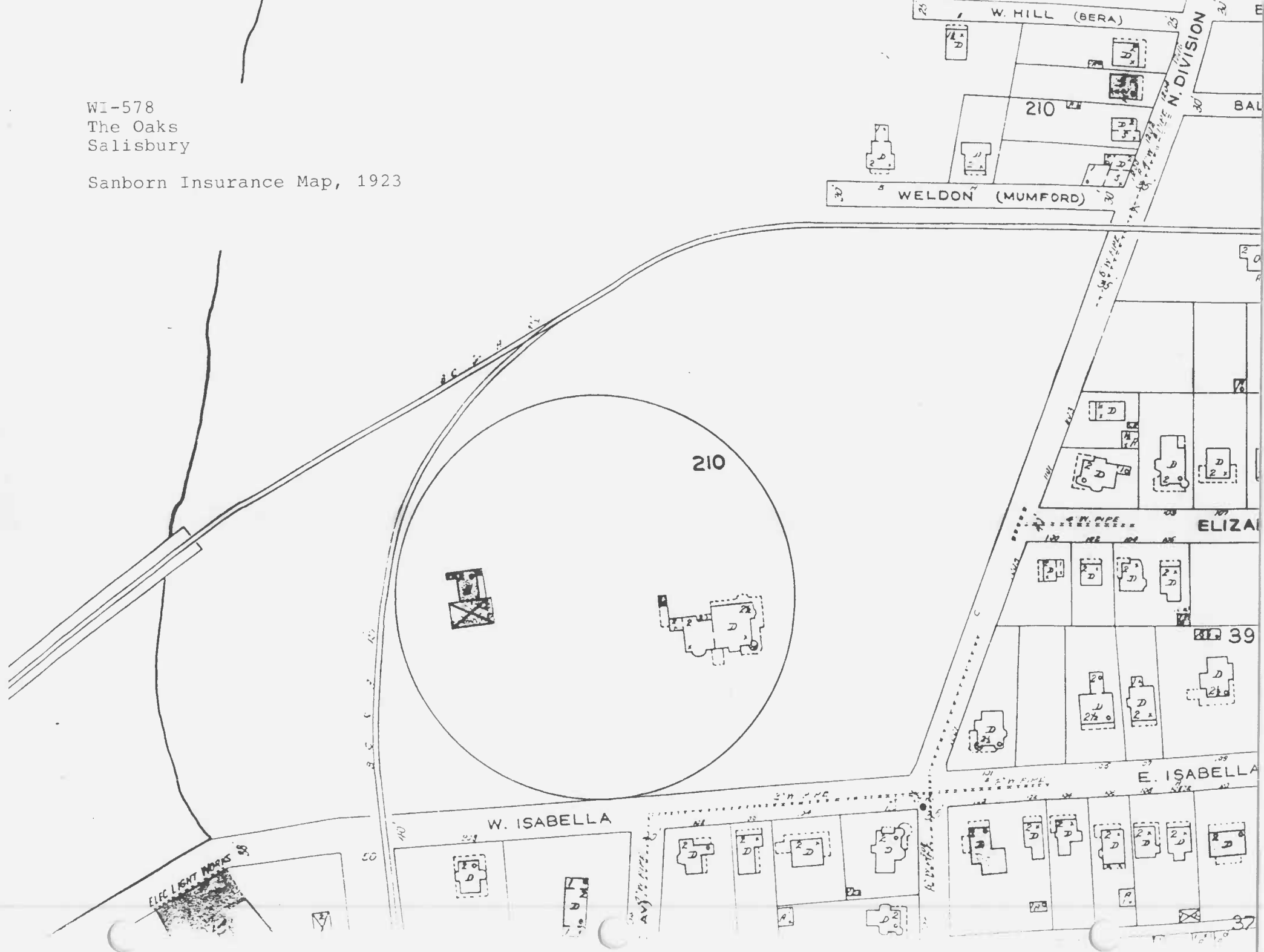


WI-578
The Oaks
Salisbury, Maryland

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson
1877

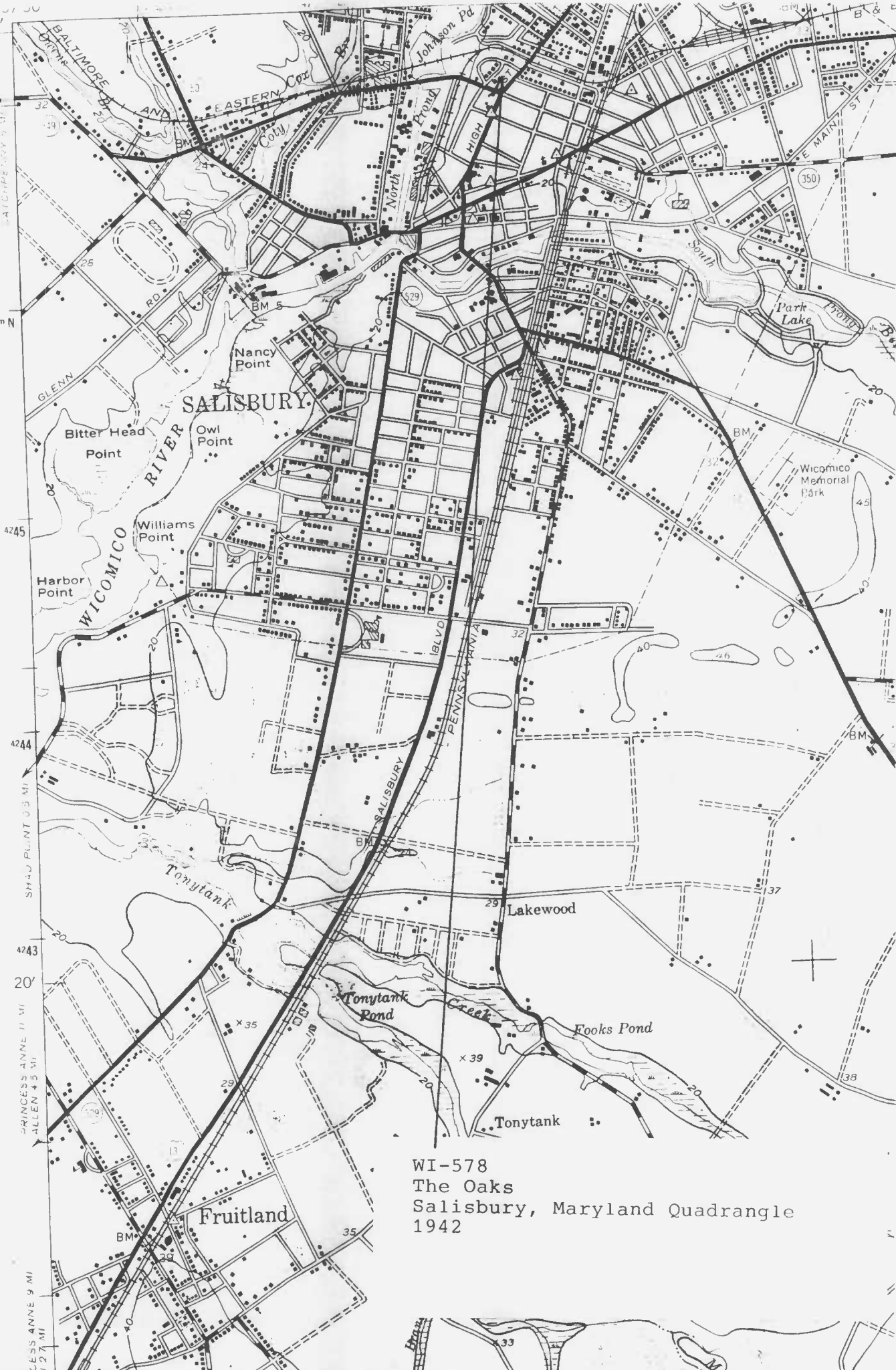
WI-578
The Oaks
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1923



38°22'30"

4246000m N



WI-578
The Oaks
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942